

CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

GILES S. PORTER, M.D., Director

Weekly Bulletin



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GUY P. JONES
EDITOR

What Public Health Has Done for One City

Thirty years ago a milk-borne typhoid epidemic occurred in Palo Alto and Stanford University. The fatality rate was high and a very large number of cases was reported in the outbreak. Out of this calamity, the Palo Alto Public Health Department was born. It began its services to the community with a health officer working upon a full time basis. It has continued in such manner ever since that time, but at present it is served by a staff composed of health officer, sanitary inspector, milk inspector, public health nurses and clerical assistants, all of whom serve as full time employees. Palo Alto was the first small city in California to have full time public health service. References have been made frequently to the accomplishments of this department and the recent annual report of the health officer, Louis Olsen, emphasizes the achievements that Palo Alto has made through the application of standard scientific public health principles within the community.

After thirty years of full time public health service, these high lights in public health affairs of Palo Alto stand out:

(1) There has been but one death from diphtheria since 1911 and no deaths from this disease since 1921. There were but two cases of diphtheria in 1933, one of which was a diphtheritic infection of the ear.

(2) There has been but one case of smallpox in the

last six years. More than 60 per cent of the school children have been protected against this disease.

(3) In 1933, 247 cases of communicable diseases were reported, of which number 203 were those of chickenpox, mumps and whooping cough.

(4) The city is credited with holding the record of 98.5 for State surprise milk scoring contest. The rating of 98.4 was obtained in a single scoring contest in 1933. This is the sixth time that the Palo Alto milk supply has scored 98.0 or better.

(5) The actual expenditure of the health department for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1933, was \$12,886.06, which represents a per capita cost of 83 cents (estimated population 15,500). Revenues for the department cover about one-half of the total departmental budget.

(6) The infant mortality rate for 1933 was 16.4. For the period 1910 to 1933, the city had a composite infant mortality rate of 40.5 per 1000 live births, which compares favorably with the State rate of 52.8 for 1932.

(7) The medical profession provided effective service in the establishment of these excellent records. Through their efforts, the percentage of children immunized against diphtheria rose to almost 60 per cent of the total number of school children. Members of the Palo Alto Medical Society also vaccinated 453 school children against smallpox in 1933.

(8) These records have been maintained during the past few years in spite of the fact that Palo Alto has gained extensive territory and increased its population materially through the annexation of Mayfield and surrounding territory.

(9) Last year plans were approved and actual work started on a sewage treatment plant. As the city has grown it has consistently extended its sewer system to include all premises. The condition of the treatment plant will establish a precedent for other cities which must use San Francisco Bay for disposal.

(10) For four consecutive years Palo Alto has won honorable mention in the Health Conservation Contest sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States.

At a cost of 83 cents per capita, Palo Alto purchases public health. The results are indicated in these commendable records, which are not excelled nor equaled by any other city in California.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA PUBLIC HEALTH WORKERS TO MEET

The annual meeting of the Northern California Public Health Association will be held in Stockton, Saturday, March 17. This will be a dinner meeting and Dr. John J. Sippy, Director of the San Joaquin Health District, will be the host.

Dr. Herbert F. True, Health Officer of Sacramento, is president of the association and Dr. Walter H. Brown of Stanford University is secretary. The annual election of officers for 1934 will be held at this meeting. The program will open with a presidential address by Dr. True. Dr. Jacques P. Gray, Assistant Director of Public Health, San Francisco, will deliver an address entitled "Some Impressions of Public Health Administrative Procedure," and Colonel O. C. Wyman of San Jose, Director of Emergency Relief, will address the meeting upon the subject "Relationship of Public Health to Emergency Relief."

Dr. Sippy will hold open house during the afternoon at the office of the San Joaquin Health District, 130 South American Street. The dinner will be held at the Hotel Clark. Units 2, 7 and 10 of the California Organization for Public Health Nursing will hold an afternoon session at the headquarters of the San Joaquin County Health District.

If ever the human race is to be roused to its highest practical level, intellectually, morally, and physically, the sciences of medicine will perform the service.—Descartes.

NURSES TO MEET IN SACRAMENTO

The California State Nurses' Association, together with the California League of Nursing Education and the California Organization for Public Health Nursing, will hold its annual convention in Sacramento April 9-13.

At the opening session, John H. Kingsbury, Director of the Milbank Memorial Fund, New York City, will deliver an address entitled "Designing Adequate Medical and Hospital Service to Meet the Needs of All." Malcolm T. MacEachern, M.D., will address the convention upon "Necessity of Greater Cooperation Between the Medical Profession, Hospitals and Other Allied Professions." Responses will be made by Nathaniel Faxon, M.D., President of the American Hospital Association, and Elnora E. Thomson, R.N., President of the American Nurses' Association.

On April 11, the relation of community health to the national recovery program will be discussed:

From the point of view of rural districts, by C. Rufus Rorem, Ph.D., Julius Rosenwald Fund, Chicago, Illinois.

From the point of view of cities, by Dr. William P. Shepard, San Francisco.

From the point of view of the State, by Senator Edward H. Tickle, Carmel.

From the point of view of nursing, by Sister John Gabriel, Seattle.

From the point of view of the physician, by Charles A. Dukes, M.D., Oakland.

Among other speakers are Dr. George G. Reinle of Oakland, President of the California Medical Association; Dr. B. W. Black, Medical Director of Alameda County; Dr. Rexwald Brown of Santa Barbara, and many other prominent speakers.

APPLICATION PENDING FOR PERMIT TO DISCHARGE WINERY WASTE

At the regular meeting of the State Board of Public Health, held on February 10, the following permit was granted, to become effective on March 10, 1934:

Roma Wine Company, Lodi—Permit to discharge cooling water, condenser water, harmless floor and tank wash to the Mokelumne River; denial of permit to sewer still slops and lees to said river.

BULLETIN INDEX ISSUED

A topical index to Volume XII of the Weekly Bulletin of the California Department of Public Health has been issued in mimeographed form. Copies of this index are available to readers of the bulletin who address a request for same to the director of the department at Sacramento.

FACTS ABOUT PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE UNITED STATES

The National Tuberculosis Association has gleaned the following interesting statements relative to public health in the United States:

From 1911 to 1931 the average length of life in the United States increased about 7 years.

The industrial policyholders of a large insurance company gained more than 12 years in the expectation of life (at birth) during the last two decades.

In 1900, 170 out of each 1000 babies died during the first year. In 1932 the corresponding figure was 58. This means that out of every 1000 babies born in 1932, 112 were spared the death they would have suffered in 1900.

A baby born in 1920 stood about 7 chances out of 1000 of falling a prey to diphtheria. The risk to a baby born in 1930 was about one-third as great.

In 1900 three times as many people died of tuberculosis as in 1932.

One hundred seventy-five thousand lives are saved every year by the reduction in the tuberculosis rate since 1904.

Trudeau established his famous tuberculosis sanatorium in 1884. Now there are in the United States more than 600 sanatoria with more than 80,000 beds.

It is estimated that there is a net saving of at least 1100 lives a year due to sanatorium care of tuberculosis cases.

Not less than 800,000 persons have passed through sanatoria during the last decade of whom close to 600,000 are still alive and showing the benefits of reduced mortality in their respective communities.

In 1928 there were 1060 permanent clinics and 2565 temporary clinics for discovering tuberculosis in the United States.

The first open-air school in the United States was established in 1908. Today there are over 1000 such classrooms and many hundreds of special fresh-air classes for anemic, malnourished children and also for normal children.

Tuberculosis cuts off an average of one and one-half years from the complete expectation of life of the people of the United States.

According to conditions prevailing in 1930, out of every 1000 males born, 42.5 will eventually die of tuberculosis in the white population and 96.7 in the colored population.

Tuberculosis is the leading cause of death in the age group 15 to 45.

Nearly two-thirds of all deaths from tuberculosis occur during that period of life when a person is of greatest economic value.

It is estimated that nearly 700,000 persons are sick with tuberculosis in the United States today.

Tuberculosis cost the United States government more than \$46,000,000 in 1932 for service-connected compensation alone.

The sum of \$400,090,176 is the total amount paid out in compensation to World War veterans afflicted with tuberculosis for the period 1923 to 1932. This is 33½ per cent of the total amount paid in compensation, and it does not include hospitalization.

The total governmental expenditure in 1913 amounted to \$3,000,000,000. In 1931, the corresponding sum was \$14,000,000,000.

Government in the United States costs its citizens about one-fifth of their total income. This means that the average man works about two and one-half or three months per year to pay taxes.

Only 6½ mills (less than two-thirds of a cent) out of each tax dollar goes for public health.

Throughout the United States we spend for public health through Federal, State, city, and rural taxes an average of 50 cents per capita per year.

The average American spends about \$30 per year for medical treatment, drugs, etc., and 99 cents for health.

It would cost about \$2 per person to operate a fully efficient city health department.

American cities spend about 75 cents per person for their health departments.

TRICHINOSIS TRACED TO UTAH

Dr. J. C. Geiger, Director of the San Francisco Department of Public Health, reported three cases of trichinosis recently in individuals who had eaten salami, which had been received from friends residing in Utah. Dr. Geiger telephoned to Dr. T. B. Beatty, State Health Officer, at Utah, giving him the information relative to these cases. An investigation upon the part of the Utah State Board of Health disclosed the fact that 22 individuals in that State were suffering from trichinosis caused by eating from the same lot of salami which had been sent to San Francisco.

Therefore, when we build, let us think that we build—forever. Let it not be for present use alone, let it be such work as our descendants will thank us for, and let us think, as we lay stone on stone, that a time is to come when those stones will be held sacred because our hands have touched them and that men will say as they look upon the labor and the wrought substance of them, "See! this our fathers did for us."—John Ruskin.

MORBIDITY*

Chickenpox

867 cases of chickenpox have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 5, Alameda 3, Berkeley 15, Livermore 3, Oakland 57, San Leandro 1, Butte County 1, Pittsburg 6, Richmond 1, Fresno County 7, Fresno 15, Kern County 4, Los Angeles County 34, Alhambra 3, Arcadia 2, Beverly Hills 1, Burbank 9, Compton 1, Glendale 19, Glendora 2, Huntington Park 6, Long Beach 12, Los Angeles 179, Monrovia 12, Montebello 1, Pasadena 25, Pomona 1, Santa Monica 8, South Pasadena 3, South Gate 5, Monterey Park 2, Bell 8, Madera County 4, Corte Madera 1, Fort Bragg 30, Merced County 4, Monterey County 2, King City 7, Napa County 1, Napa 1, Orange County 5, Santa Ana 9, Seal Beach 10, Lincoln 4, Riverside County 2, Riverside 17, Sacramento County 3, Sacramento 7, San Bernardino County 5, Chino 2, San Bernardino 3, Upland 3, San Diego County 26, Chula Vista 2, Coronado 1, Escondido 10, La Mesa 2, National City 6, San Diego 14, San Francisco 135, San Joaquin County 13, Lodi 3, Manteca 6, Stockton 21, Arroyo Grande 1, San Luis Obispo 5, Burlingame 3, San Mateo 1, South San Francisco 2, Santa Barbara County 1, Santa Barbara 2, Santa Clara County 1, San Jose 14, Santa Cruz 3, Shasta County 3, Solano County 1, Fairfield 1, Vallejo 1, Sonoma County 1, Red Bluff 1, Visalia 1, Ventura County 8, Ventura 5, Yolo County 2.

Diphtheria

36 cases of diphtheria have been reported, as follows: Oakland 2, Fresno 1, Los Angeles County 4, Burbank 1, Long Beach 1, Los Angeles 20, Modoc County 1, Riverside County 1, Sacramento 1, San Bernardino County 2, Manteca 1, Redwood City 1.

German Measles

169 cases of German measles have been reported, as follows: Berkeley 1, Fresno County 7, Fresno 6, Selma 1, Sanger 1, Calexico 3, Kern County 11, Los Angeles County 11, Beverly Hills 1, Los Angeles 63, Pasadena 6, Monterey County 1, Orange County 5, Brea 1, Orange 1, Santa Ana 2, La Habra 7, Placentia 1, Riverside County 6, San Francisco 4, Tracy 18, San Mateo County 1, Shasta County 7, Tulare County 2, Visalia 1, Ventura County 1.

Influenza

66 cases of influenza have been reported, as follows: Richmond 1, Los Angeles County 2, Alhambra 2, Claremont 3, Long Beach 2, Los Angeles 39, Pasadena 2, Merced County 1, Roseville 1, Sacramento 3, San Bernardino 2, San Francisco 3, San Joaquin County 3, Stockton 2.

Malaria

2 cases of malaria have been reported, as follows: Butte County 1, Sonoma County 1.

Measles

1819 cases of measles have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 13, Alameda 128, Berkeley 36, Hayward 4, Oakland 399, Piedmont 7, San Leandro 3, Richmond 1, Fresno County 3, Fresno 1, Selma 3, Imperial County 15, Brawley 24, Calexico 1, El Centro 4, Kern County 1, Susanville 6, Los Angeles County 11, Beverly Hills 1, Burbank 1, Glendale 4, Huntington Park 1, Long Beach 2, Los Angeles 49, Pasadena 1, Pomona 13, San Fernando 1, South Pasadena 1, Whittier 7, Lynwood 5, South Gate 1, Madera County 6, Marin County 4, Mill Valley 1, San Rafael 2, Napa County 2, Calistoga 1, Orange County 1, Huntington Beach 1, Orange 1, Riverside County 9, Sacramento County 1, Sacramento 4, Colton 1, San Bernardino 4, San Diego County 138, Chula Vista 13, Coronado 39, Escondido 4, La Mesa 26, National City 33, Oceanside 1, San Diego 342, San Francisco 104, San Luis Obispo County 5, Burlingame 1, Daly City 8, San Bruno 1, San Mateo 16, Santa Barbara County 52, Santa Barbara 151, San Jose 1, Fairfield 1, Sonoma County 1, Stanislaus County 4, Dinuba 2, Ventura County 49, Santa Paula 10, Ventura 31, California 1.**

Mumps

659 cases of mumps have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 12, Alameda 17, Berkeley 5, Oakland 64, Piedmont 1, San Leandro 5, Colusa County 1, Pittsburg 1, Kern County 27, Bakersfield 1, Taft 1, Lemoore 17, Los Angeles County 10, Avalon 6, Beverly Hills 1, Glendale 3, Huntington Park 1, La Verne 1, Los Angeles 15, Pasadena 9, Pomona 15, Santa Monica 1, Whittier 8, South Gate 4, Marin County 1, San Rafael 1, Monterey County 10, Salinas 3, Orange County 24, Anaheim 21, Fullerton 2, Huntington Beach 3, Orange 4, Santa Ana 4, Seal Beach 3, Tustin 2, Riverside County 4, Sacramento County 2, Sacramento 3, San Bernardino County 1, Colton 1, San Diego County 1, San Diego 1, San Francisco 277, San Joaquin County 10, Stockton 7, San Luis Obispo County 1, San Mateo County 1, Daly City 9, San Mateo 1, Menlo Park 1, Santa Barbara County 3, Santa Clara County 2, Mountain View 1, San Jose 1, Watsonville 8, Sonoma County 8, Modesto 2, Tulare County 4, Winters 6.

Pneumonia (Lobar)

97 cases of lobar pneumonia have been reported, as follows: Oakland 1, Butte County 1, Selma 1, El Centro 3, Bakersfield 1, Los Angeles County 4, Glendale 3, Los Angeles 19, Montebello 1,

* Complete reports for above diseases for week ending March 3, 1934.

** Cases charged to "California" represent patients ill before entering the State or those who contracted their illness traveling about the State throughout the incubation period of the disease. These cases are not chargeable to any one locality.

Pasadena 2, San Fernando 1, Santa Monica 1, Torrance 1, Lynwood 1, South Gate 2, Bell 1, Madera County 1, Madera 1, Monterey County 2, Orange County 2, Brea 1, Riverside 1, Sacramento County 1, Sacramento 8, North Sacramento 1, Upland 1, Oceanside 1, San Diego 1, San Francisco 17, San Joaquin County 3, Stockton 8, Palo Alto 1, San Jose 3, Shasta County 2.

Scarlet Fever

265 cases of scarlet fever have been reported, as follows: Hayward 1, Oakland 9, Butte County 4, Contra Costa County 1, Fresno County 15, Fresno 2, Humboldt County 3, Imperial County 6, Brawley 1, El Centro 1, Kern County 6, Los Angeles County 29, Azusa 1, Burbank 1, Glendale 3, Huntington Park 3, Long Beach 2, Los Angeles 46, Pasadena 6, Pomona 8, Redondo 1, San Fernando 1, San Gabriel 1, Santa Monica 1, South Pasadena 1, Torrance 1, South Gate 1, Madera County 1, King City 1, Orange County 1, Anaheim 1, Fullerton 3, La Habra 1, Laguna Beach 1, Riverside County 4, Sacramento County 1, San Bernardino County 4, Redlands 4, San Bernardino 4, Upland 3, San Diego 19, San Francisco 17, San Joaquin County 5, Stockton 6, Daly City 4, Santa Barbara County 2, Santa Maria 2, Santa Clara County 3, San Jose 4, Santa Cruz 1, Shasta County 4, Fairfield 4, Modesto 4, Turlock 1, Tulare County 1, Tuolumne County 1, Sonoma 1, Ventura County 1, Fillmore 1.

Smallpox

One case of smallpox from Compton has been reported.

Typhoid Fever

3 cases of typhoid fever have been reported, as follows: Long Beach 1, Orange 1, San Francisco 1.

Whooping Cough

448 cases of whooping cough have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 2, Alameda 7, Berkeley 7, Livermore 1, Oakland 59, Piedmont 2, Pleasanton 1, Colusa County 22, Martinez 4, Richmond 1, Fresno 3, Imperial County 2, Calexico 4, Kern County 15, Bakersfield 8, Lemoore 1, Los Angeles County 30, Avalon 3, Beverly Hills 5, Compton 1, Glendale 1, Huntington Park 3, Inglewood 3, Long Beach 2, Los Angeles 52, Monrovia 1, Pasadena 12, Pomona 14, Redondo 2, San Fernando 7, Santa Monica 7, South Pasadena 1, Lynwood 1, Maywood 1, Madera County 12, Madera 5, Marin County 1, Ross 2, Merced County 2, Monterey 1, Pacific Grove 4, Santa Ana 1, La Habra 12, Riverside County 12, Riverside 4, Sacramento County 1, Sacramento 1, Hollister 1, San Juan Bautista 1, San Bernardino 1, Coronado 5, San Diego 8, San Francisco 26, San Joaquin County 9, Stockton 12, Tracy 14, San Luis Obispo 2, Santa Barbara 2, Santa Clara County 1, Gilroy 4, San Jose 2, Sunnyvale 1, Solano County 3, Vacaville 1, Sonoma County 2, Petaluma 1, Stanislaus County 1, Modesto 1, Sutter County 1, Yuba City 1, Dinuba 2, Ventura County 2, Yolo County 1.

Meningitis (Epidemic)

2 cases of epidemic meningitis have been reported, as follows: Humboldt County 1, Auburn 1.

Dysentery (Amoebic)

10 cases of amoebic dysentery have been reported, as follows: Oakland 1, Fresno County 1, Fresno 1, El Centro 1, Los Angeles 1, San Bernardino 1, San Francisco 3, California 1.**

Dysentery (Bacillary)

3 cases of bacillary dysentery have been reported, as follows: Beverly Hills 1, Los Angeles 2.

Leprosy

One case of leprosy from Contra Costa County has been reported.

Pellagra

3 cases of pellagra have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles County 1, San Bernardino County 1, San Francisco 1.

Poliomyelitis

5 cases of poliomyelitis have been reported, as follows: Fresno County 1, San Bernardino County 2, San Joaquin County 1, Sonoma County 1.

Trachoma

One case of trachoma from San Francisco has been reported.

Encephalitis (Epidemic)

3 cases of epidemic encephalitis have been reported, as follows: Alameda 1, Redondo 1, San Francisco 1.

Rabies (Animal)

19 cases of rabies in animals have been reported, as follows: Los Angeles County 3, Los Angeles 6, Santa Monica 1, Coronado 1, San Joaquin County 6, Manteca 1, Stanislaus County 1.

Trichinosis

One case of trichinosis from San Francisco has been reported.

Food Poisoning

4 cases of food poisoning have been reported, as follows: Oakland 1, Los Angeles 2, San Francisco 1.

Undulant Fever

6 cases of undulant fever have been reported, as follows: Oakland 1, Los Angeles County 2, Fullerton 1, Redlands 1, Ventura County 1.

Septic Sore Throat (Epidemic)

9 cases of epidemic septic sore throat have been reported, as follows: San Francisco 2, Sonoma County 7.